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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Application No. : 10/817,597  
Applicant : Euan Skinner Macleod et al.  
Filed : April 2, 2004  
Examiner : Frank M. Lawrence Jr.  
Art Unit : 1724  
Title : VACUUM CLEANER  
Docket No. : 0978-0023  
Confirmation No.: 3138

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Name: Francisca M. A. Hubbard

Signature Francisca M. A. Hubbard

**POST PAYMENT OF ISSUE FEE INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Honorable Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In connection with the examination of the above-identified application, applicants advise the Office that they have learned of an additional reference through a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application.

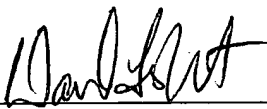
In particular, applicants call to the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Patent No. 6,341,404 (Salo et al.) which issued January 29, 2002, and which is equivalent to counterpart CN1394126 and counterpart WO 01/50938. Applicant encloses a PTO/SB/08A form identifying U.S. Patent No. 6,341,404. This statement is provided in order to comply with 37 C.F. R. §1.56 and §1.97 et. seq. and this statement is not to be construed as a representation that this reference is prior art or is material to the subject

application or that no information exists which is more material than this reference or the other references already of record.

As presently advised, each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this information disclosure statement.

Applicants do not believe any fees are due for filing this information disclosure statement. However, to the extent any fees are due, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any such fee to our deposit account No. 50-1039.

Respectfully submitted,

By:   
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January 12, 2007

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**Complete if Known****INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 1

Application Number	10/817,597
Filing Date	04/02/2004
First Named Inventor	Euan Skinner Macleod
Art Unit	1724
Examiner Name	Frank M. Lawrence Jr.
Attorney Docket Number	0978-0023

**U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
		us- 6,341,404	January 29, 2002	Salo et al.	
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**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> "Number" <sup>4</sup> "Kind Code" <sup>5</sup> (if known)				

Examiner  
SignatureDate  
Considered

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup>Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup>See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup>Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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